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# BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)

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1965

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1965



1965

*Mayor:*

COUNCILLOR H. WERBA

**Public Health Staff**

*Medical Officer of Health:*

J. CALDWELL

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector:*

J. G. REESON

F.I.A.S., M.I.P.H.E., M.B.I., C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.

*Additional Public Health Inspector (March 1965):*

A. G. WILLIAMS

M.A.P.H.I.

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**GENERAL STATISTICS**

Area ... ..	2,326 acres
Rateable Value ... ..	£216,099
Value of Penny Rate ... ..	£920
Number of inhabited houses (approx.) ...	1,617
Population ... ..	4,800

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Saint Ives  
(Hunts.) for the year ended 31st December, 1965**

To :-

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the Borough of  
Saint Ives (Hunts.)

Your Worship and Members of the Council,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

### **VITAL STATISTICS**

**POPULATION.** The estimated increase in the population of the Borough (150) was somewhat less than the increase over the past five years which has been in the region of 200.

**BIRTH RATE.** The crude birth rate was less than last year's figure and now stands at a level which is lower than it has reached since before 1960 despite an increase in the population of 1,000 but even so the rate is still higher than the national average.

**DEATH RATE.** The crude death rate (9.5) was higher than that for 1964 and the corrected death rate stands at a point just fractionally above the figure for England and Wales as a whole. Exactly 50% of deaths occurred in persons of 75 years or over and over 75% occurred in persons of 65 and over.

28% were due to malignant disease and 48% to disease of the cardio-vascular system.

**INFANT MORTALITY.** As in 1964 only one infant died this year not having attained the age of 12 months. This gives an infant mortality rate of 8.8 per 1,000 live births.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE.** Only 18 notifications were received during the year — 17 of them being in respect of measles. The town remained free from any form of serious infection and it is gratifying to note that immunisation measures appear to continue to be effective in preventing such conditions as diphtheria, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis.

### **SOCIAL CONDITIONS**

**HOUSING.** The 49 dwellings commenced in 1964 were nearing completion by the end of the year. Some of these



dwellings will be used to accommodate the tenants of Slum Clearance property and thus help to reduce the number of unsatisfactory dwellings in the Borough.

The Council has been carrying out investigations into the most suitable type of accommodation for the senior citizens and has instructed an architect to prepare plans. Plans were in course of preparation for the erection of a further 24 houses for general housing needs and it is hoped that a start will be made next year.

**WATER SUPPLY.** This continues to be satisfactory in quantity and quality and no complaints have been received.

The quantity of fluoride in the supply is negligible so far as prevention of dental decay is concerned. While the Council did support the idea of fluoridating the supply from Cambridge, the latter authority did not find it possible to implement the recommendation of the Ministry of Health in this matter.

**SWIMMING POOLS.** Unfortunately little progress has been made in the proposed Swimming Pool which was suggested in conjunction with the adjacent Rural District.

**SEWERS AND SEWERAGE.** At the end of the year the majority of the sewers and sewage disposal works were completed. Many of the problems which have confronted the Borough for several years will soon be overcome.

**REFUSE.** The collection still continues to be satisfactorily operated by the Rural District Council and as the town has developed the number of bins has been proportionately increased.

**ABATTOIR.** In 1965 the throughput again increased and additional staff was required to cope with the work entailed.

The extension of the building work which was proposed in 1964 has not yet been constructed but it is anticipated that it will be completed during 1966.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Reeson and all other members of the department's staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have done during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1965

Estimated mid-year population ... 4,850

### LIVE BIRTHS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	58	52	110
Illegitimate	3	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	61	53	114
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 23.5

Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.88) 20.7

Birth rate per 1,000 population  
(England and Wales) 18.1

### STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	2	—	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and  
still births 17.5

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and  
still births (England and Wales) 15.7

### DEATHS

	22	24	46
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population			9.5
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.23)			11.7
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales)			11.5

### INFANT MORTALITY — Deaths of infants under 1 year

Legitimate	—	—	—
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant mortality rate (Deaths of infants  
under 1 year per 1,000 live births) 8.8

Infant mortality rate (England and Wales) 19.0

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

<i>Age</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 4 weeks	1	—	1
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	—	—
1 year and under 5 years	1	—	1
5 and under 15 years	—	—	—
15 and under 25 years	—	—	—
25 and under 35 years	—	—	—
35 and under 45 years	—	—	—
45 and under 55 years	1	3	4
55 and under 65 years	3	1	4
65 and under 75 years	7	6	13
75 years and over	9	14	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	22	24	46
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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## CAUSES OF DEATHS

(Registrar General's List)

<i>List No.</i>	<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	3
16.	Diabetes	1	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	6
18.	Coronary disease, angina	4	2
20.	Other heart disease	2	3
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	1	—
24.	Bronchitis	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
34.	All other accidents	—	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total all causes	22	24
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past 5 years:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Population	4,110	4,320	4,480	4,700	4,850
BIRTHS					
Total live biths	98	113	122	123	114
Crude birth rate	23.8	26.2	27.2	26.2	23.5
Area comparability factor	.97	.94	.93	.93	.88
Corrected birth rate	23.1	24.6	25.3	24.3	20.7
Birth rate (England and Wales)	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.1
DEATHS					
Total deaths	39	40	71	35	46
Crude death rate	9.9	9.3	15.8	7.4	9.5
Area comparability factor	.93	1.04	1.06	1.06	1.23
Corrected death rate	9.3	9.6	16.8	7.9	11.7
Death rate (England and Wales)	12.0	11.9	12.2	11.3	11.5

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### NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1965

					<i>Total cases notified</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	—
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	—
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	17
Acute pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	—
Typhoid fever ...	...	...	...	...	—
Paratyphoid fever	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	—
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—
Infective hepatitis	...	...	...	...	—
Food poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	—
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	—
Total					18



## TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register on 31st December, 1965 ... 20

Pulmonary ... 18      Non-pulmonary ... 2

AGE PERIODS				New Cases—Diagnosed				New Cases—Transfers			
				Respiratory		Non-Res.		Respiratory		Non-Res.	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	..	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..				0	I	0	0	0	0	0	0

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 in connection with persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area :-

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge (Tel. Cambridge 55526).

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennyson Road, Cambridge (Tel. Cambridge 2097).

### (b) AMBULANCE SERVICES

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders. (Tel. Huntingdon 348).

### (c) HOME NURSING

A Nurse/Midwife resident in Fenstanton (Tel. St. Ives 3623) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended maternity cases in the Borough.

### (d) CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

(i) The following services were provided by the Huntingdon County Council :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	3rd Friday in month. 10.30-11.30 a.m.	Health Clinic, Ramsey Road, St. Ives.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 yrs.)	Every Friday. 2-4 p.m.	Ditto.
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren.	Every Monday 9 a.m.-12 noon. 1.30-4.30 p.m.	Ditto.
	Pre-natal and nursing mothers	Every Saturday 9 a.m.-12 noon.	Health Clinic, Nursery Road, Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday. 10 a.m.-12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Tuesdays, 3-6.30 p.m. Thursdays, 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
	Males	Mondays, 4.30-6.30 p.m. Tuesdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
	Females and Children	Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon Thursdays, 4.30-6.30 p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	Every Tuesday 10-12 noon (Surgeons by appointment) 1st, 2nd and 4th Fridays in month (Sister) 10 a.m.-12 noon.	Health Clinic, Nursery Road Huntingdon
			Health Clinic, Ramsey Road St. Ives.

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency). 10 a.m.-12 noon. 2-3 p.m.	Health Clinic, Nursery Road, Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopædic, Obsterical, Pædiatric, Gynæcological, and Dental Out-patient clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) HOSPITAL SERVICES

FEVER. Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

MATERNITY CASES were admitted to Primrose Lane Hospital, Huntingdon and Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**1. WATER SUPPLIES.**

The situation both as regards quantity and quality has been very satisfactory, and the supply has been adequate to meet the demands of all development.

When plans are received for new development, the Water Company is consulted so that they may be aware of the possible requirements. They can then prepare their plans in advance.

**2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

The above scheme was completed by the end of the year sufficiently to allow some properties to be connected, and it is anticipated that the whole will be completed ahead of the scheduled completion date.

**3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

Only very minor works were carried out to one watercourse during the year.

**4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

Three very minor complaints were received during the year which were immediately dealt with, and the collection generally has been carried out in an extremely satisfactory manner.

**5. SWIMMING POOLS.**

No progress has been made during the year towards the provision of a public Swimming Pool.

A new Swimming Pool has been completed at the Junior School on Ramsey Road.

**6. SHOPS ACTS.**

No infringements were found during the year.



7. CARAVANS.

The Caravan Site has been well maintained and run with a resident Warden. Works have not yet been commenced on the proposed extension of this site to accommodate a further 50 vans.

The vans are of good quality, many having bathrooms incorporated in them.

8. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Complaints were received of a nuisance resulting from the burning of cars, and the Council served an abatement notice.

9. BED BUGS.

No reports of infestation by bed bugs were received, and no premises were found to be infested.

10. RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Properties have been inspected during the year as a result of complaints. All Council properties have been treated and cleared.

11. PETROLEUM ACTS.

The number of licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Over 1,000 gallons	2
500-1,000	8
Under 500	10

12. ABATTOIR.

Again the throughput at the Abattoir increased during the year, and an additional slaughterman was engaged. Consideration is also being given to further extensions, but it is not expected that these will be commenced until 1966.

13. NOISE ABATEMENT.

One complaint was made during the year, but no formal action was taken.

## INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACTS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	11	26	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7	39	54	Nil	Nil
Total	50	80	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### (a) ABATTOIR PARTICULARS

	Beast	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1962	885	2	1,500	3,157	5,544
1963	945	11	1,194	3,032	5,182
1964	1,143	80	7,952	4,874	14,049
1965	1,428	98	13,528	5,558	20,612

### MEAT CONDEMNED AT ABATTOIR

	Beef lbs.	Veal lbs.	Mutton lbs.	Pork lbs.	Total lbs.
1962	3,547	—	—	2,650	6,197
1963	4,246	—	—	2,001	6,247
1964	3,034	—	2,272½	3,565	8,871½
1965	4,825	104	1,805	4,290	11,024

### MEAT AND ABATTOIR

The following table shows the number of animals killed, carcasses and offal inspected and condemned:-

			Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	..	..	1428	98	13528	5558
Number inspected	..	...	1428	98	13528	5558
<b>(All diseases except tuberculosis):—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	..		3	2	14	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..		182	—	349	294
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	..	..	12.94	2.04	2.67	5.54
<b>(Tuberculosis only):—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	..		—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..		—	—	—	31
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	..	..	—	—	—	.557
<b>Cysticercosis:—</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..		1	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	..		1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	..	..	—	—	—	—

(b) POULTRY INSPECTION

Regular inspections were made at the local processing Station, and during the year 5,606 carcasses were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

(c) FOOD CONDEMNED IN SHOPS

	st.	lb.	oz.
Cooked Ham	3	1	8
Corned Beef	3	12	0
Ox Tongue		5	4
Pork Shoulder		11	0
Luncheon Meat	1	12	10
Tinned Plums	5	1	8
Tinned Prunes		7	0
Tinned Grapefruit		11	14
Tinned Oranges		6	14
Tinned Raspberries	174	Tins	
Frozen Fish	72	Packets	
„ Meat	82	„	
„ Vegetables	331	„	
„ Pies	8	„	
„ Mousse	17	„	
„ Sponge	6	„	
„ Eclairs	4	„	
„ Chickens	15	Birds	

(d) LIQUID EGG

The process of breaking out egg, pasteurising and canning continued during the year.

(e) MILK

Samples of milk taken during course of delivery to the consumer were found to be satisfactory.

(f) ICE CREAM

Number on Register	...	...	13
Number of Inspections	...	...	27
All samples taken were Grade I.			

(g) BAKEHOUSES

There is only one bakehouse in the Borough which has been maintained in a Satisfactory condition.



(h) GENERAL

A spot examination of Corned Beef was carried out at a shop in the Borough where the condition of both tins and contents caused me concern — I requested temporary withdrawal from sale of the consignment, and this was agreed. Examination showed the contents of some of the cans were unfit, and the Manufacturers upon being approached carried out detailed examination of some of the cans.

The Manufacturers reported to me that their examination revealed faulty seams, and 85 cases were withdrawn from sale in the Borough and a nearby City. The Manufacturers took the matter up with the makers of the cans.

(i) INVESTIGATIONS

Following complaints, prosecutions were taken against three retailers with the following results:-

Bread unfit for consumption fined £15 and costs.

Baby food unfit for consumption fined £10 and costs.

Bread not of substance demanded fined £10 and costs.

Bacon not of quality demanded fined £15 and costs.

The following complaints were also investigated as follows:-

Metal in shoulder of pork

— hypodermic needle.

Leg of chicken unfit

— found to be fit.

Foreign matter in peanut butter

— found to be peanut particle.

Unfit cooked fish

— found to be fit.

No prosecution was taken in these cases.

## HOUSING

### NEW HOUSES

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:-

Council	...	...	Nil
Private	...	...	60

### OVERCROWDING

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

### SLUM CLEARANCE

Number reported to be unfit for habitation	1
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed ... ..	1
Number of houses unfit where demolition orders were made ... ..	0

### GRANTS

5 applications were made for Standard Grants for the improvement of houses all of which were approved.

J. G. REESON  
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector



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